

THE EXTRA POINT

STMA NEWS

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Last year's Conference and Show was the first that the association held on its own. The interest displayed by sports turf managers at Dodgertown made it a success. The time is rapidly approaching for the 1990 Conference and Show, and it is going to be even bigger and better than last year.

The Show is "the" place our commercial members have to strut their stuff. They will be at the 1990 STMA Conference and Show in Houston, TX. If you want to see what competing products look like or how they perform side by side, be there.

The dates are January 19-21, 1990. The place is the Wyndham Greenspoint near the Houston airport. The Wyndham is a fine facility for a conference, and there will be an outdoor equipment demonstration area.

The Conference will be a good one, too. The theme is "Sports Turf: Heart of America for the 90s." Sports turf will become the focus, the fulcrum, the pivot point, the heart of America's leisure activities, not only for spectator events, but for participation. Lots of people are going to want playing fields, and they are going to want high quality, safe fields.

Dr. Jim Watson will bring out the exciting aspects that we sports turf managers have to look forward to in the next decade. Dr. Jim Beard will forecast how we are going to be able to manage turf with the ever-increasing demands. The theme session will be topped off by Dr. Dick Caton, telling us how all this is going to be paid for—the "Who and How" of the money.

The majority of the Conference will consist of some of the most knowledgeable people in the business discussing the technical aspects of sports turf management. There will be lectures and workshops. It is the best annual conference program yet, and there have been some great ones.

Send in your conference and hotel reservations now. This is the show of your sports turf management future. The first of the decade.

Steve Cockerham, President

STMA FOUNDER GILL HOSPITALIZED

Harry Gill, head groundskeeper at Milwaukee County Stadium and founder of STMA, was hospitalized in September following a heart attack. At press time, Gill was out of the intensive care unit at St. Luke's Hospital in Milwaukee and back on the phone to his friends and the crew at the stadium.

Gill has been generous with his time and expertise during 20 years at Milwaukee County Stadium. Groundskeepers at high schools, colleges, parks, and other stadiums called Gill at such a rate that he realized an association for them was desperately needed. In 1981, Gill,

George Toma (Kansas City), Dick Ericson (Minneapolis), and Dr. Bill Daniel (Purdue University) created STMA.

Gill has touched the lives of hundreds of professional groundskeepers as well as students. In 1987, STMA created the Harry Gill Scholarship for college students hoping to enter the sports turf industry. Gill also hires college turf students to give them important experience before they graduate.

Gill is responsible for preparing Milwaukee County Stadium for Brewers' games, Packers' games, and special events. He also helped the Brewers build their new spring training facility in Chandler, AZ.

SECOND CHAPTER MEETS

The second official chapter of STMA, the Midwest Chapter, has been meeting monthly at Harper College in Palatine, IL, to organize its plans for the coming year. Four committees have been formed under acting chairman Greg Pety, superintendent of Parks for the Waukegan Park District.

In addition to the Midwest Sports Turf Institute, the chapter hopes to present four workshops in 1990 for Chicago-area sports turf managers. "We are fortunate to have the support of James A. Fizzell with the extension service," said Pety. The chapter hopes to elect its first slate of officers this fall.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY COMING

Ginnie Scharfman, STMA office manager, is putting the final touches on the 1989 Membership Directory. The valuable reference lists the names and addresses of more than 800 STMA members. The directory is the key to sharing information among members. "It gets bigger every year," said Scharfman.

CATCH THE ACTION!

Mark your calendar!

January 19-21, 1990

Annual Conference and Trade Show

Wyndham Greenspoint Hotel, Houston, TX

March 6, 1990

Southeastern Sports Turf Institute

Citrus Bowl, Orlando, FL

March 20, 1990

Southwestern Sports Turf Institute

California Polytechnic University, Pomona, CA



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